Criteria for Fixing price of Levy Sugar

5593. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria being followed while fixing prices of levy sugar in different parts of the country;

(b) whether these prices are fixed even lower than the cost of production in sugar producing states; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The ex-factory prices of levy sugar are fixed under Sub-section 3C of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 having regard to the following factors:-

(i) Statutory Minimum Price notified for sugarcane;

(ii) Manufacturing cost of sugar;

(iii) Duty or tax, if any, paid or payable thereon; and

(iv) Securing of a reasonable return on the capital employed in the business of manufacturing sugar.

The ex-factory price of levy sugar so fixed takes into account the cost of production on the basis of statutory minimum price of sugarcane fixed by the Central Government. Where, however, the factories are paying cane prices higher than the statutory minimum, they are expected to compensate themselves for the higher cost of production, if any, from the realisations made by the sale of freesale sugar, which is 55% of the total production.

[*English*]

Statutory Recognition to SC/ST Employees Association

5594. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to grant statutory recognition to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Employees Association in the Ministries and Departments as well as in the Public Sector Undertakings, Nationalised Banks and other Government organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) SC/ST Employees Associations do not fulfill the conditions required for granting recognition to service Associations.

Coca Cola in India

5595. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coca Cola is entering into the Indian market by some another name;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have accorded necessary permission to the company; and

(d) if so, the conditions laid down while giving permission to the company?